

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 STATE 221816

21-12

ORIGIN IO-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 NEA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-07 INR-10 L-03

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TO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY NICOSIA

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C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 221816

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MARR UN CY XF

SUBJECT; FUTURE OF UNFICYP

REF: STATE 218670

1. SYG WALDHEIM BEING UNAVAILABLE, ASSISTANT SECRETARY POPPER TOOK OCCASION OF NOVEMBER 8 VISIT TO GUYER AND URQUHART ON UNEF PROBLEMS TO CONVEY CONTENT OF REFTEL, URGING REDUCTION OF UNFICYP AND RESTRUCTURING IN DIRECTION OF A SMALLER, OFFICER-LEVEL OBSERVER FORCE.

2. GUYER WAS SYMPATHETIC IN PRINCIPLE, BUT POINTED OUT WHAT UN SEES AS NUMBER OF OBSTACLES TO IMMEDIATE PROGRESS IN THIS DIRECTION. FIRST, HE SAID CYPRUS GOVERNMENT HAD ASKED AND HAD BEEN GIVEN COMMITMENT TO REPLACE FORCES

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PAGE 02 STATE 221816

REMOVED TO SERVE IN UNEF WITH OTHERS FROM SAME COUNTRIES.

CYPRIOIS WERE STRONGLY OPPOSED TO STRENGTHENING NATO REPRESENTATION IN UNFICYP. MOREOVER, CYPRIOIS FAVORED MAINTENANCE OF PRESENT CHARACTER OF UNFICYP CONTINGENTS.

3. UN HAD MET WITH REPRESENTATIVES FROM FORCE CONTRIBUTOR COUNTRIES AND HAD FOUND STRONG SUPPORT FOR ITS VIEW THAT SOME TYPE OF DECONFRONTATION ASSURANCES ARE NEEDED IF UNFICYP IS TO BE SUBSTANTIALLY CUT DOWN. SWEDES WENT SO FAR AS TO HINT BROADLY THAT THEY WOULD HAVE TO

RECONSIDER THEIR PARTICIPATION IN UNFICYP IF PHASE TWO REDUCTIONS WERE INSTITUTED WITHOUT A DECONFRONTATION AGREEMENT. UN WILL GO BACK TO SWEDES AND ATTEMPT TO MODERATE THEIR STAND, AND WILL PRESS ON WITH ALL CONCERNED TOWARD PHASE TWO REDUCTIONS (OF APPROXIMATELY 25 PERCENT AVERAGE). IF HOWEVER CONTRIBUTORS FIRMLY INSIST ON A DECONFRONTATION ASSURANCE, UN WILL NOT RISK BREAK UP OF UNFICYP ON THIS POINT.

4. GUYER REGARDED TURKS AS MAIN OBSTACLE IN OBTAINING SUCH ASSURANCES. OLCAY, TURKISH UN PERM REP IN NEW YORK, PLEADED INABILITY TO TAKE ANY ACTION WHATEVER PENDING FORMATION OF A NEW TURKISH GOVERNMENT AND NAMING OF A NEW FOREIGN MINISTER. GUYER THOUGHT THIS WOULD MAKE IT IMPOSSIBLE TO CONCLUDE THE DECONFRONTATION AGREEMENT NEGOTIATIONS BEFORE ISSUANCE OF SYG'S REPORT PREPARATORY TO SECURITY COUNCIL DECEMBER SESSION ON RENEWAL OF MANDATE.

5. POPPER SAID HE UNDERSTOOD UN'S PROBLEMS, BUT THAT WE COULD HARDLY REGARD POSITION AS SATISFACTORY. WE THOUGHT RECORD OF SIX YEARS OF RELATIVE INTER-COMMUNAL STABILITY IN CYPRUS WAS A BETTER AUGURY FOR CONTINUING DECONFRONTATION THAN ANY NEW ASSURANCES UN WAS LIKELY TO OBTAIN FROM PARTIES. MEANWHILE, CONTINUING FINANCIAL DEFICIT POSES INCREASINGLY SERIOUS PROBLEM FOR WHOLE OPERATION. POPPER SAID
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PAGE 03 STATE 221816

US POSITION WOULD BE TO CONTINUE TO PRESS FOR REDUCTION, AND HE HOPED GUYER AND OTHERS WOULD KEEP OUR ATTITUDE IN MIND. RUSH

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